GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:441
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Abuse of Senior Citizens
Ajmal Maulana Badruddin

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any data on the rising incidents of abuse of older persons in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey on the condition of old age people living at old age homes in different parts of the country, if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) the number of old age homes in the country at present;

(e) the details of the schemes sponsored by the Government for the welfare of senior citizens; and

(f) the funds allocated under the scheme during the said period, State and Scheme-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a) to (c) : The Government is aware that there are instances of Elders being abused. However, no authentic data is available in this regard. The Government has enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 which inter-alia makes maintenance of parents/senior citizens by their children/relative obligatory and justiciable through Tribunals; provides for revocation of transfer to property by Senior citizens in case of neglect by children/relatives; penal provisions for abandonment of senior citizens, medical facilities for senior citizens; and protection of life and property of senior citizens.
As per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, "Police" and "Public Order" are State Subjects and, as such the primary responsibility of prevention detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of crime including crime against citizens lies with the State/UT Administrations. However, the Union Government attaches highest priority to matters of security of its citizens and through various schemes and advisories augments the efforts of States/UTs. The Ministry of Home Affairs has issued two detailed advisories dated 27.3.2008 and 30.8.2013 to all State Governments/UTs advising them to take immediate measures to ensure safety and security and for elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence against old persons through initiatives such as identification of senior citizens, sensitization of police personnel regarding safety, security of older persons, regular visit of the beat staff; setting up of toll free senior citizen helpline; setting up of senior citizen security cell; verification of domestic helps, drivers etc.
(d) to (f) : The Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of integrated programme for Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants are given for running and maintenance of Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units etc. Proposal under this scheme are received through the State Governments/UTs.
A Statement showing number of Old Age Homes assisted and beneficiaries covered during the last three year and current year is at Annexure.